



American Legion

HATFIELD POST 933

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MAY/JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 03	American Legion Post 933 Meeting	1900 hrs
	Home Association Meeting	2000 hrs
MAY 20	American Legion Riders Mtg	1900 hrs
MAY 22	Work Project Day at the Post	0800-complete
MAY 28,29,30	Placement of Flags on Veterans Graves	0900-1100 hrs
MAY 31	MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS	1000 hrs
JUN 06	Board of Director's Meeting	1100 hrs
JUN 07	American Legion Post 933 Meeting	1900 hrs
	Home Association Meeting	2000 hrs
JUN 14	FLAG DAY EVENTS	1900 hrs
JUN 17	American Legion Riders Mtg	1900 hrs

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

To all of our members, Legion, SAL, Riders and Auxiliary, I want to thank for your devotion and support for our Post through this awful pandemic. Now that it appears that the threat of illness is lessening, we should be able to enjoy a beautiful summer and rest of the year. Our Post is getting busy helping veterans, and preparing for our three big events beginning with Memorial Day on May 31st. Then it will be time for Flag Day on June 14th, so please bring all your faded, torn and tattered OLD GLORY'S to the Post for proper retiring of our sacred and cherished Flags. We are a working on and planning for Veteran's Day on November 11th also.

Along with these events we are beginning to plan a real celebration of the Post's 75th Anniversary. Please think about what you would like to see at this event in October and come to a Legion Meeting or send your ideas to Laureen, our great adjutant.

I personally want to thank you for your support during this difficult time in my life, with my beloved wife, Karen, now in hospice care at home. I will continue to do my best to be the best Commander I can be. I truly am here for each and every one of you. I am trying to be at the Post at least 2 to 3 times a week when relatives and friends can be with my Karen. If you have needs or

just have questions, please don't hesitate to tell me or ask me.

As one of God's faithful servants, I pray that He continue to Bless our Country, our Democracy, our Constitution, our Veterans and our Citizens.

With respect, caring and honor,
Michael G Lewis
Commander
Post 933 Hatfield

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We were happy to welcome a couple new members in May, Frank Whalen, Robert Mockus, and George Fraoili. Please be sure to welcome them when you see them.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

We're up and running again, the bar stools miss your butts, so please come out and support the Canteen! Please check the website for our weekly specials. We are also taking reservations for parties again, please contact Jim Bagnell to reserve a date!

Calendar:

May 8th – If you ordered Mother’s Day Flowers from the Auxiliary pick them up this Saturday in the Legion parking lot!

May 15th – the Annual Commander’s Cup will take place at Fox Hollow Golf Club in Quakertown, PA, \$85 per golfer, please see Tom Hopwood to sign-up, but you need to do it ASAP!

May 22nd – In preparation for Memorial Day events at the Post we will host a Volunteer Work Project day to clean up the exterior of the Post. **We need volunteer’s** to clean windows, power wash the patio and patio furniture, weed and power wash the pavilion floor and picnic benches. Leave a message on the post website if you’d like to volunteer. We will provide free donuts and coffee!

May 28th & 29th – We will conduct our annual preparation for Memorial Day by placing American flags on Veterans graves in local cemeteries, **if you’d like to volunteer** to help, please contact Laureen Sendel-Grant.

Memorial Day Events:

May 31st - 1000 hrs Memorial Day Ceremony at the Hatfield Borough Veterans Memorial in front of the old Woodburners location. **ALL ARE INVITED!** We will then move to the Post for a short ceremony to replace the flags on the flag pole followed by **FREE hot dogs!**

June 14th is **FLAG DAY** and we will have a ceremony starting at 1900 hrs before the burning of the flags commences, again all are welcome to attend. Please drop off your old/worn flags in the drop box outside the front door prior to June 14th.

We are currently planning the celebration of our 75th Anniversary on October 3, 2021, SAVE THE DATE!

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

Please Contact Laureen Sendel-Grant, Barry Forgeng or Susan Parish if you need help with your VA benefits!! There are now three of us who can try to help you with your benefits issues. None of us is officially trained yet, but we have lots of contacts we can go to and try to get your answers. We do have a homeless disabled Korean War Veteran that we are trying to place in an apartment or even a room rental in

someone’s home, please contact Laureen if you have a lead for him.

Susan recently attended the Tough Customer Talk Meeting with MONTCO Dept of VA and received an Application for Admission to a PA State Veterans’ Home. I know this is a last resort for everyone, but as we age and are left to fend for ourselves this might be an option everyone wants to keep in their back pocket! Contact me if you want to fill one out or know of someone who needs to take advantage of this benefit.

Also, and this one’s important! MONTCO has rental assistance money available for Veterans, call 211 and ask for rental assistance through the Montgomery County ERUC “Your Way Home”. They can give up to 15 months of rental assistance money! They have money that they have to use or it goes back to the state! Take advantage of this valuable benefit!!

We will continue to announce that Post 933 was given 19 burial plots in Whitmarsh Memorial Park for the use of our Veterans. If you’d like to learn more about these plots and get an estimate for how much burial in the WMP might cost, please reach out to Tom Harwick or myself. Unfortunately, these plots will be given away on a “first come, first serve” basis.

Also, again, if you donate blood regularly or even just occasionally, please keep track of your donations and let me know, just send me an email. We get credit on our yearly Post Consolidated Report to the Department and National for pints donated! Platelets count too!

ADJUTANT’S REPORT

We finally found a Legionnaire to fill the position of Jr. Vice Commander, welcome Susan Parish to the Command Team. The few Officers that serve on the boards that keep this Post running are doing a huge service for ALL our members, but we need volunteers to step up and help us keep things going. Many hands make light work, when we’ve got vacancies, it makes it more difficult for the rest of us. **PLEASE STEP UP!** Contact the Commander or me if you’re interested in filling a vacancy or just helping out.

Legion Renewals are slowing down, but we still haven’t met our membership goals for 2021! If you have not renewed your 2021 membership, please pay your dues as soon as possible. Remember, all door cards expired on 31 December 2020. Your door access cards were deactivated then if you did not renew. Please see the bartender for an envelope to submit dues as an

alternative to mailing them. For those of you who have renewed your membership already, **THANK YOU.**

SICK CALL

Tracy Cook is currently in rehab
Joe Gallagher is undergoing treatment for mouth cancer
Bill Woosman suffered an aneurysm
Robert Schaeffer artery replacement surgery

If you know of someone who is ill, hospitalized or has passed, please notify me ASAP so that we can coordinate the appropriate support for the Veteran/family members.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE AND EMAIL INFORMATION:

1. **Medical or Mental Health Emergency**---Call 9-1-1 or go to nearest emergency room.
2. **24-Hour Medical Advice**---610-384-7711, Press 3. Urgent Care Eligibility Verification---1-833-4VETNOW or 1-833-483-8669.
3. **VA Urgent Care Support Line**---1-866-620-2071.
4. **MISSION Act Benefits**---610-384-7711, Option 6.
5. **Veterans Crisis Line (Suicide)**---1-800-273-8255, Press 1. Confidential Chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or Text 838255. 24 Hours a Day/365 Days a Year.
6. **White House VA Hotline**---1-855-948-2311. 24 Hours a Day/365 Days a Year.
7. **VA Healthcare Benefits**---1-877-222-8387.
8. **VA Benefits**---1-800-827-1000.
9. **MYVA311 (other)**: 1-844-698-2311, if you don't know who to call.
10. **Coatesville Primary Care Clinic**---24 Hour Call Line 610-384-7711. Press #1 for Refill Medications, Press #2 for Schedule or Cancel an Appointment, Press #3 to Speak to a Registered Nurse for Health-Related Concerns.
11. **DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Chapter 25:**
<http://www.davmembersportal.org/chapters/pa/25/d>

efault.aspx ; email: davchapter25@outlook.com;
phone: 610-657-7754

12. **Senator Casey, Washington, DC** - 202-224-6324
13. **Senator Toomey, Washington, DC** - 202-224-4254
14. **National Service Officer Hot Line** - 888-604-0234, M-F, 9-4PM. To call about your claim.
15. **VA Life Insurance:** 1-800-669-8477
16. **Philadelphia VA Med Center:** 1-800-949-1001
17. **Willow Grove Outpatient Clinic:** 215-823-6050
18. **Spring City VA OutPatient Clinic:** 610-948-0981
19. **Gulf War/Agent Orange Helpline:** 1-800-749-8387

Please submit any announcements or items for the newsletter to Laureen Sendel-Grant, Editor.
Requests must be received by the 15th to be in the current edition.